PODIATRY, puh DY uh tree, is the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of foot diseases and deformities. Podiatrists treat such conditions as calluses, corns, bunions, and other skin, muscle, bone, and joint problems of the foot. They may prescribe drugs, perform minor surgery, or use various physical therapy devices. They are specialists in preventive foot hygiene. They prescribe correct shoes and fit corrective devices. Podiatrists treat patients in their offices and in clinics, hospitals, and nursing homes.

There are five accredited schools of podiatry in the United States. They offer a four-year course leading to a degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.). A person entering one of these schools must have completed at least two years of college work, including courses in chemistry and biological sciences. The American Podiatry Association has headquarters at 20 Chevy Chase Circle NW, Washington, D.C. 20015. Ass Ruber

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PODGORNY, pod GOHR nee, NIKOLAI VIKTORO-VICH (1903-), served as president, or officially, the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet from 1965 to 1977. The Presidium handles legislative matters between sessions of the Supreme Soviet, Russia's legislature. Podgorny also was a member of the policymaking Politburo of the Communist Party's Central Committee from 1960 to 1977.

Podgorny was born in Karlovka, the Ukraine. He became a member of the Communist Party in 1930. The following year, he graduated from a food institute in Kiev. He worked in various administrative posts in the food industry from 1931 to 1946. The Kharkov regional party committee in the Ukraine appointed him first secretary in 1950. Podgorny also served as first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party from 1957 to 1963.

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